Visit of PM to Arunachal Pradesh

1576. SHRI KALRAJ M1SHRA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether China had protested in strongest terms to register its objections to the visits of Indian political leaders to Arunachal Pradesh, including the Prime Minister to Arunachal Pradesh on October 3, 2009 warning Indian of 'triggering disturbances in the disputed region';

(b) if so, whether Government gave a befitting reply to warning thereto; and

(c) if so, in what terms?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI S. M. KRISHNA): (a) to (c) China has objected to the visit of Indian leaders to Arunachal Pradesh, including Prime Minister's visit in October, 2009. China illegally claims approximately 90,000 square kilometres of Indian territory in the State of Arunachal Pradesh. The fact that Arunachal Pradesh is an integral and inalienable part of India and that it is well established practice in our democratic system, that our leaders visit States where elections to Parliament and to the State Assemblies are taking place, has been clearly conveyed to the Chinese side.

Meeting with Foreign Minister of Nepal

1577. SHRI BHAGAT SINGH KOSHYARI: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Nepalese Foreign Minister met the External Affairs Minister;

(b) if so, the details of discussion which took place;

(c) whether the matter relating to the recent spurt in the cross-border infiltration by Pakistan was also brought to his notice; and

(d) if so, his reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI S.M. KRISHNA): (a) Yes.

(b) to (d) The Nepalese Foreign Minister Ms. Sujata Koirala visited India from August 10 to 14, 2009 and met the Minister of External Affairs. During the visit, issues of mutual interest, including border management were discussed. Both sides agreed to resolve border related issues through existing bilateral mechanisms and not allow the open border to be misused. Nepal assured that it will not allow its territory to be used against India. India expressed full support for the successful completion of the peace process and for Nepal's efforts for its economic development. The visit was a preparatory one preceding the visit of the Prime Minister of Nepal, Mr. Madhav Kumar Nepal, to India from August 18-22, 2009.

Integrated low cost sanitation programme

1578. SHRI SHYAMAL CHAKRABORTY:

SHRI MOINUL HASSAN:

Will the Minister of HOUSING AND URBAN POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state: